

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-33. (canceled) ✓

1 ~~34~~. (currently amended) A cerium oxide particulate composition comprising aggregates consisting essentially of approximately spherical primary particles of cerium oxide, wherein ~~at least some of the aggregates are~~ comprise a mixture of cenospherical and aciniform aggregates.

[ 35. (canceled) ✓

2 ~~36~~. (currently amended) The composition of claim ~~35~~ <sup>1</sup> ~~34~~, wherein about 90% or more (by weight) of the aggregates are cenospherical aggregates.

A1 3 ~~37~~. (original) The composition of claim ~~36~~ <sup>2</sup>, wherein about 95% or more (by weight) of the aggregates are cenospherical aggregates.

4 ~~38~~. (original) The composition of claim ~~37~~ <sup>3</sup>, wherein about 98% or more (by weight) of the aggregates are cenospherical aggregates.

5 ~~39~~. (original) The composition of claim ~~34~~ <sup>1</sup>, wherein the primary particles have an average diameter (by number) of about 30 nm or less.

6 ~~40~~. (original) The composition of claim ~~39~~ <sup>5</sup>, wherein the primary particles have an average diameter (by number) of about 20 nm or less.

7 ~~41~~. (original) The composition of claim ~~40~~ <sup>6</sup>, wherein the primary particles have an average diameter (by number) of about 10 nm or less.

8 ~~42~~. (original) The composition of claim ~~34~~ <sup>1</sup>, wherein the aggregates have a density of about 6 g/cm<sup>3</sup> or more.

9 ~~43~~. (original) The composition of claim ~~42~~ <sup>8</sup>, wherein the aggregates have a density of about 6-7 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>10</sup>/~~44~~. (original) The composition of claim <sup>1</sup>/~~34~~, wherein the cenospherical aggregates have an average diameter (by weight) of about 1-20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

<sup>11</sup>/~~45~~. (original) The composition of claim <sup>10</sup>/~~44~~, wherein the cenospherical aggregates have an average diameter (by weight) of about 5-10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

<sup>12</sup>/~~46~~. (currently amended) The composition of claim <sup>1</sup>/~~35~~ <sup>1</sup>/~~34~~, wherein the aciniform aggregates have an average diameter (by number) of about 500 nm or less.

<sup>13</sup>/~~47~~. (original) The composition of claim <sup>12</sup>/~~46~~, wherein the aciniform aggregates have an average diameter (by number) of about 200 nm or less.

<sup>14</sup>/~~48~~. (original) The composition of claim <sup>13</sup>/~~47~~, wherein the aciniform aggregates have an average diameter (by number) of about 100 nm or less.

<sup>15</sup>/~~49~~. (original) The composition of claim <sup>1</sup>/~~34~~, wherein the aggregates have a surface area of about 50  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$  or more.

<sup>16</sup>/~~50~~. (original) The composition of claim <sup>15</sup>/~~49~~, wherein the aggregates have a surface area of about 70  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$  or more.

<sup>17</sup>/~~51~~. (currently amended) The composition of claim <sup>1</sup>/~~34~~, wherein the primary particles have a crystallite size of about 1-30 nm.

<sup>18</sup>/~~52~~. (original) The composition of claim <sup>17</sup>/~~51~~, wherein the primary particles have a crystallite size of about 5-15 nm.

53-55. (canceled) ✓